

(b) means for translating said digital identifiers of said observed signing motions into words and phrases;

(c) means for outputting said words and phrases generated by the visual observation of said signing motions in a comprehensible form to another person;

(d) a receiver for receiving spoken words and phrases of another person and transmitting them;

(e) means for translating said spoken words and phrases into a visual form which may be observed by [the] a deaf person; and

(f) means for outputting said visual form of said spoken words and phrases on said video apparatus for viewing by the deaf person.

12. (Amended) In a method for electronic communication for the deaf comprising:

(a) visually observing the images of facial and hand and finger signing motions of a [deaf] person and

converting the observed signing motions into digital identifiers;

(b) translating said digital identifiers of said observed signing motions into words and phrases;

(c) outputting said words and phrases in a comprehensible form to another person;

(d) receiving speech from said another person;

(e) translating said speech of said another person into signing motions; and

(f) displaying said signing motions representing said speech to [said] a deaf person.

26. (Amended) An electronic communication system for the deaf comprising:

(a) a video apparatus for visually observing the images of facial and hand and finger signing motions of a [deaf] person and converting the observed signing motions into digital identifiers;

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- (b) means for translating said digital identifiers of said observed signing motions into words and phrases;
- (c) means for outputting said words and phrases generated by the visual observations of said signing motions in a comprehensible form to another person;
- (d) a receiver for receiving spoken words and phrases of another person and transmitting them;
- (e) means for translating said spoken words and phrases into signing motions which may be observed by [the] a deaf person; and
- (f) means for outputting said signing motions on said video apparatus for viewing by the deaf person, said translating means being located at a central station with which said video apparatus and receiver are in communication.

Add new claims 33-45 as follows:

33. An electronic communications system for the hearing impaired comprising:

a receiver for receiving spoken words and phrases;

means for translating said spoken words and phrases
into a visual form which may be observed by a hearing
impaired person;

said translating means including means for transforming
said spoken words into equivalent signing content and then
into textual material;

means for outputting said textual material for display
on a device utilized by said hearing impaired person;

said device utilized by said hearing impaired person
including means for receiving words and phrases from the
hearing impaired person;

said transforming means converting said words and
phrases from the hearing impaired person into a form which
may be presented to a hearing person; and

means for outputting said translated words and phrases
from said hearing impaired person.

34. An electronic communications system according to

~~claim 33, wherein said translating means are located in a station remote from said hearing impaired person and said hearing person.~~

~~35. An electronic communications system according to claim 33, wherein said means for receiving words and phrases from said hearing impaired person comprises a video camera for capturing signing motions generated by said hearing impaired person.~~

~~36. An electronic communications system according to claim 35, further comprising means for converting said captured signing motions into a plurality of identifiers and means for transmitting said plurality of identifiers to said translating means.~~

~~37. An electronic communications system according to claim 36, wherein said transmitting means comprises at least one telephone line.~~

~~38. An electronic communications system according to claim 36, wherein said translating means includes means for correlating said identifiers with a vocabulary and grammar database.~~

~~39. An electronic communications system according to~~

~~claim 33, wherein said translating means includes artificial intelligence means for providing an analysis of the emotional content of said spoken words and wherein said system further comprises means for separately conveying said emotional content to said device utilized by said hearing impaired person.~~

~~40. An electronic communications system according to claim 33, wherein said device has means for converting textual material received from said translating means into reduced identifying pointers and for converting said reduced identifying pointers into animated images which portray in sign language the content of the spoken words and phrases.~~

~~41. An electronic communication system according to claim 33, wherein said device utilized by said hearing impaired person is located in a kiosk.~~

~~42. An electronic communication system according to claim 33, wherein said device utilized by said hearing impaired person comprises a portable transmitter/receiver.~~

~~43. An electronic communication system according to claim 33, wherein said device utilized by said hearing impaired person comprises a personal computer which includes a monitor.~~